Year	AIR	DD	PB (Total) (Rs. in crores)
2003-2004	568.63	561.81	1130.44
2004-2005	547.48	580.02	1127.50

All India Radio and Doordarshan are part of Prasar Bharati and whatever financial assistance is received by it is further distributed to them (AIR & DD) as per their requirements.

Foreign film personalities working in India

2040. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of foreign film personalities are working in India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that Indian film personalities are prohibited from entering those very countries whose citizens are working profitably here; and

(d) if so, the action proposed to be taken to check such imbalance and discrimination?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) to (d) According to information received from Ministry of Home Affairs, foreign film personalities who are interested to work in the Indian film industry are being issued either business visa or employment visa as the case may be.

There is no separate visa for film personalities.

The Government does not have any data about foreign film personalities who are working in India nor regarding Indian film personalities who have been refused visa by any other country.

Quality of television serials

2041. SHRI RAJU PARMAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that TV serials are not entertaining and lack quality in respect of poor scripts, direction and other technical parameters and programming contents;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps Doordarshan is taking to re-launch well-established TV serial makers who have been denied access to Doordarshan inspite of giving excellent programmes?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) and (b) There are more than 200 TV channels available over the Indian skies. In respect of private TV channels the Government does not have a role to play in their programming content, except for insisting on adherence to the Programme and Advertisement Codes prescribed under the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and rules framed thereunder.

As far as Doordarshan is concerned it constantly endeavours to telecast serials that are of a high professional standard both in terms of technical parameters as well as content and which provide wholesome entertainment to its viewers.

(c) Prasar Bharati has informed that Doordarshan selects the sponsored/ commissioned programmes in accordance with the criteria prescribed in the relevent guidelines which includes among other things the track record of the applicant producer.

Trivialization of news media

2042. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware about the comments expressed at a Seminar on media ethics at Mumbai about the growing trivialization of the news media and developments such as sting operations, and the ethical compromises journalists at times have to make etc. to collect specific types of news at the behest of editors; and

(b) if so, whether Government are thinking of making an in-depth study of this situation, especially when growth of resources for the print media are leading to a perceptible decline in the quality of practice, so that journalistic ethics are not diluted?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) and (b) The Government is not aware of any such Seminar on media ethics at Mumbai. However, the Press Council of India, recently, on the occasion of National Press Day (November 16, 2005) had suggested to all the State Governments/UTs and media